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Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world"
Second session
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Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda*
Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world": consideration of the draft final document of the special session

Proposed outcome: revised text submitted by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee

The Chairman's working draft is in three parts:

Part I. Political declaration

Part II. Overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development

Part III. Further actions and initiatives to implement the commitments made at the Summit

Part I is set out below.

Part I
Political declaration

1. Five years have passed since the World Summit for Social Development, which marked the first time in history that heads of State and Government had gathered to recognize the significance of social development and human well-being for all and to give these goals the highest priority into the twenty-first century. The Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action established a new consensus to place people at the centre of our concerns for sustainable development and pledged to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment, and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all.

2. We, the representatives of Governments, meeting at this special session of the General Assembly at Geneva to assess achievements and obstacles and to decide on further initiatives to accelerate social development for all, reaffirm our will and commitment to implement the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action, including the strategies and agreed targets contained therein. The Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action will remain the basic framework for social development in the years to come.

3. Since the Social Summit, recognition of the imperative of social development requiring an enabling environment has spread and strengthened. Furthermore, there is a growing awareness of the positive impact of

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effective social policies on economic and social development. Our review and appraisal has shown that Governments, relevant international organizations and actors of civil society have made continued efforts to improve human well-being and eradicate poverty. However, further actions are needed for the full implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action. It has also become clear that there is no single universal path to achieving social development and that all have experience, knowledge and information worth sharing.

4. Globalization and continuing rapid technological advances offer unprecedented opportunities for social and economic development. At the same time, they continue to present serious challenges, including widespread financial crises, insecurity, poverty, exclusion and inequality within and among societies. Considerable obstacles to further integration and full participation in the global economy remain for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, as well as for some countries with economies in transition. Unless the benefits of social and economic development are extended to all countries, a growing number of people in all countries and even entire regions will remain marginalized from the global economy. We must act now in order to overcome those obstacles affecting peoples and countries and to realize the full potentials of opportunities presented for the benefit of all.

[5. We therefore reiterate our determination and duty to eradicate poverty, promote full and *productive employment, foster social integration,* and create an enabling environment for social development. Peace and security within and among nations, the rule of law, effective state institutions, transparency and accountability in the management of public affairs, the participation of all citizens in the decisions that affect their lives, the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and gender equality are essential for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development. In this regard, we reaffirm our attachment to the principles of good governance and rule of law. Social development requires not only economic activity but also more equitable distribution of wealth, maximizing opportunities and guaranteeing social justice. Achievements should be assessed in terms of human well-being and not only in economic terms, recognizing the mutually reinforcing linkage between economic and social development [, democracy and respect for human rights — Canada]. — EU]

[5. We therefore reiterate our determination and duty to eradicate poverty, by mobilizing new and additional resources at the international level, promote full and productive employment with full respect for the basic rights of workers, including the rights of migrant workers, and foster social integration, with full respect for non-discrimination, tolerance and diversity. Maintenance of peace and security within and among nations, democracy, transparent and accountable governance, the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and gender equality are essential for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development. Achievements must be made not only through economic activity but also through equitable distribution of wealth within and among nations, maximizing opportunities and guaranteeing social justice. — G77]

[5bis. We reaffirm our will to ratify and implement the major international conventions mentioned in the Copenhagen Declaration, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the fundamental conventions specified in the International Labour Organization (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and its follow-up and the ILO Convention on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour. Participatory mechanisms, including tripartite forms of social dialogue among Governments, workers and employers organizations, can contribute to social development. — EU]

6. Full and effective implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action is necessary at all levels. We reaffirm that while social development is a national responsibility, it cannot be successfully achieved without the collective commitment and efforts of the international community. We invite Governments, the United Nations and other relevant international organizations, within their respective mandates, to strengthen the quality and consistency of their support for sustainable development, in particular in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as in some countries with economies in transition, and to continue coordinating

their efforts in this regard. Integrated, coherent and gender sensitive social, economic and environmental policies are required to close the gap between goals and achievements. This in turn requires not only renewed political will but also the mobilization and allocation of additional resources at both national and international levels. In this connection, we will strive to fulfil the yet to be attained internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product (GNP) of developed countries for overall official development assistance (ODA) as soon as possible.

[6bis. We recognize that excessive debt-servicing has severely constrained the capacity of many developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to promote social development. We also recognize the efforts being made by indebted developing countries to fulfil their debt-servicing commitment despite the high social cost incurred. Therefore, concerted **[national and international actions] [actions by the international community]** are needed for an effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solution to the external debt and debt-servicing burdens of developing countries. **[Addressing the debt problems of middle-income [developing] countries with a view to resolving their potential long-term debt-sustainability problem is required.]** The **[full [and additional] financing and]** implementation of the **[enhanced]** heavily indebted poor countries (HIPC) initiative **[, in the context of poverty reduction strategies,]** is essential **[for realizing its potential.]**

7. The fight against poverty requires the active participation of civil society and people living in poverty. We are convinced that universal access to high-quality education, including opportunities for the acquisition of skills required in the knowledge-based economy, health and other basic social services and equal opportunities for active participation and sharing the benefits of the development process are essential for the achievement of the objectives of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action. Recognizing Governments' primary responsibility in this regard, we acknowledge the importance of strengthening partnerships, as appropriate, among the public sector, the private sector and other relevant actors of civil society.

7bis. We reaffirm our pledge to place particular focus on and give priority attention to the fight against the worldwide conditions that pose severe threats to the health, safety, peace, security and well-being of our people. Among these conditions are chronic hunger; malnutrition; illicit drug problems; organized crime; corruption; foreign occupation; armed conflicts; illicit arms trafficking; trafficking in persons; terrorism; intolerance and incitement to racial, ethnic, religious and other hatreds; xenophobia; and endemic, communicable and chronic diseases, in particular human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), malaria and tuberculosis.

8. We reiterate our resolve to reinforce solidarity with people living in poverty and dedicate ourselves to strengthening policies and programmes to create inclusive, cohesive societies for all — women and men, children, young and older persons — particularly those who are vulnerable, disadvantaged and marginalized. We recognize that their special needs will require specific targeted measures to empower them to live more productive and fulfilling lives.

8bis. Although Africa and the least developed countries have made continued efforts to implement the commitments made at Copenhagen, widespread poverty remains. Recognizing the internal and external constraints facing these countries, we reiterate our will to continue to support their efforts by allocating resources, including by fulfilling internationally agreed commitments, as well as by strengthening initiatives, in particular in the area of social development.

[9. Enhanced international cooperation [, **among Governments and other actors, including non-governmental organizations, — EU**] is essential to implement the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action as well as the further actions and initiatives adopted by the special session, and to address the challenges of globalization. **[Reform of *international financial institutions through their* democratization, transparency and accountability will further foster this implementation and ensure that prospective benefits promised by economic growth and global integration will be shared [more] equitably and that poverty will be eradicated from the world in order to promote social development. — G77] [We recognize the need to achieve a strengthened and more stable international financial system responsive to the challenges of development. — Japan, EU] [We recognize the need to continue work on a wide range of reforms to create a strengthened international financial system. — Norway] [We**

recognize the need to continue to work on a wide range of reforms for a strengthened and more stable international financial system with a view to enabling it to deal more effectively and in a timely manner with new challenges of development in the context of global financial integration. — Mexico] [In this regard, we also acknowledge the need for a coordinated follow-up to all major conferences and summits by Governments, regional organizations and all of the bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates. — EU]

10. Determined to give new momentum to our collective efforts to improve the human condition, we here set out further initiatives for the full implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action. At the dawn of the new millennium, aware of our responsibilities towards future generations, we are strongly committed to social development for all in a globalizing world. We invite all people in all countries and in all walks of life, as well as the international community, to join in renewed dedication to our shared vision for a more just and equitable world.